

REMARKS

This Amendment responds to the Office Action mailed March 5, 2007 in the above-identified application. Based on the foregoing amendments and the following comments, reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-24 were previously pending in the application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 6, 13, 18 and 24 have been amended. Claims 4, 5, 16 and 17 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, claims 1-3, 6-15 and 18-24 are currently pending, with claims 1, 13 and 24 being independent claims. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner has objected to the drawings because they are informal. Enclosed herewith are 12 sheets of formal drawings for replacement of the drawings as filed. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4, 7, 9-10, 13-16, 19, 21-22 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by Levin (US 6,639,906). Claims 5-6, 11-12, 17-18 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Levin. Claims 8 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Levin in view of Komatsu (US 6,816,542). The rejections are respectfully traversed in view of the amended claims.

Levin describes a system for performing digital receive processing for multiple signals received over the same RF band (col. 3, lines 27-29). A demodulator shown in FIG. 5 includes XOR banks 204-210 which generate offset despread data (col. 8, lines 29-39). An early interpolation circuit 212, an on-time interpolation circuit 214 and a late interpolation circuit 216 interpolate the outputs of XOR banks 204-210 (col. 8, line 66 to col. 9, line 30).

Amended claim 1 is directed to a method for processing a spread spectrum baseband signal, comprising, in part, despreading samples of the baseband signal to provide two or more despread results, and interpolating the two or more despread results based on an estimated finger location to provide a symbol estimate, wherein interpolating the two or more despread results includes selecting the despread results around the estimated finger location and selecting interpolation coefficients based on the estimated finger location.

Levin contains no disclosure or suggestion of "selecting interpolation coefficients based on the estimated finger location," as required by amended claim 1. Levin, by contrast, discloses a demodulator which uses fixed interpolation filter coefficients. Levin describes a 15 tap FIR filter (col. 9, line 28). The claimed method for processing a spread spectrum baseband signal achieves flexibility and resolution not provided by the demodulator of Levin. For these reasons, amended claim 1 is clearly and patentably distinguished over Levin, and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 3, and 6-12 depend from claim 1 and are patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Amended claim 13 is directed to apparatus for processing a spread spectrum baseband signal and requires, in part, means for interpolating two or more despread results based on an estimated finger location to provide a symbol estimate, wherein the means for interpolating the two or more despread results includes means for selecting the despread results around the estimated finger location and means for selecting interpolation coefficients based on the estimated finger location.

Levin does not disclose or suggest "means for selecting interpolation coefficients based on the estimated finger location," as required by amended claim 13. As discussed above in connection with claim 1, Levin discloses interpolation of despread data using interpolation filters with fixed coefficients. For these reasons and for the reasons discussed above, amended claim 13 is clearly and patentably distinguished over Levin, and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 14, 15 and 18-23 depend from claim 13 and are patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as claim 13.

Amended claim 24 is directed to apparatus for processing a spread spectrum baseband signal and requires, in part, means for interpolating two or more despread results based on an estimated finger location to provide a symbol estimate, wherein the means for interpolating the two or more despread results includes means for selecting the despread results around the

estimated finger location and means for selecting the interpolation coefficients based on the estimated finger location.

As discussed above in connection with claim 13, Levin does not disclose or suggest means for selecting interpolation coefficients based on the estimated finger location, as required by amended claim 24. Instead, Levin discloses interpolation with fixed filter coefficients. For these reasons and for the reasons discussed above, amended claim 24 is clearly and patentably distinguished over Levin, and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Based upon the above discussion, claims 1-3, 6-15 and 18-24 are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if this communication does not place the application in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

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Respectfully submitted,

By William R. McClellan
William R. McClellan
Registration No.: 29,409
WOLF, GREENFIELD & SACKS, P.C.
Federal Reserve Plaza
600 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02210-2206
(617) 646-8000

APPENDIX

Replacement sheets of Figures 1-11 attached.